

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

15 Linden Terrace

CITY, TOWN

Towson

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Baltimore

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

## CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT

## OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

## PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

## STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

## ACCESSIBLE

☒ YES: RESTRICTED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☐ NO

## PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE☐ MUSEUM☐ COMMERCIAL☐ PARK☐ EDUCATIONAL☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ RELIGIOUS☐ GOVERNMENT☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ MILITARY☐ OTHER:**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

N. Barton Benson

Telephone #:

STREET &amp; NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

County Courts Building

Liber #: 4767

Folio #: 158

STREET &amp; NUMBER

401 Bosley Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Towson

STATE

Maryland

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

BA-2156

CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT  
☒ GOOD  
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED  
☐ RUINS  
☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED  
☒ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE  
☐ MOVED DATE \_\_\_\_\_

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This two story frame house with attic differs from the other houses on the street in that it possesses a hip roof with deck and several Colonial Revival features, namely, oversized pedimented gable dormers, single light window sash, and a glass paneled door with transom and sidelights. The entire roof including the dormers are covered with slate shingles. The house, itself, which is nearly square in plan, is covered with white asbestos shingles. Large two story bay windows are located on the south and west facades. A brick chimney exits the roof on the north side of the deck. A partially enclosed porch covers the entire main facade as well as half of the west and east facades. A small addition has been made in the rear of the building and an outbuilding and two garages occupy spaces on the rear of the lot.

The house faces south on Linden Terrace and the main facade is three bays wide. Six wood steps lead to the front porch which is floored with tongue and groove floorboards and is supported by four Doric wood columns resting on stone porch piers. A hand-rail with plain balusters and newel post appear on each side of the steps. The section of porch spanning the main facade is surrounded by a plain balustraded railing and is covered with a tongue and groove ceiling. Where the porch reaches the end of the main facade, it turns the corners and covers half of the west and east facades respectively. These two sections of the porch are enclosed with white asbestos shingles. Casement windows appear in the north facade of the enclosed western section while glass double doors are found on the eastern part.

The formal entrance which is located slightly off center consists of an interior door with an upper rectangular panel of glass and a lower inset panel of wood. Sidelights flank the door and a five light transom hangs above. To the right of the entrance is a 1/1 double hung sash window, and to the left is a two-story bay window comprised of six 1/1 sash windows. The second floor on the main facade has two 1/1 sash windows in addition to the second story bay window. A pedimented gable dormer with a 1/1 sash window appears on the attic floor.

The east facade contains three 1/1 sash windows in the enclosed porch as well as a glass and wood paneled door opening into the porch. Additional fenestration on this side of the house includes two 1/1 sash windows on the first floor and three on the second floor. A small stained glass window appears between the first and second floors (possibly located on the landing of an interior flight of stairs). Slightly below this stained glass window and approximately seven feet from the ground a door

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

(has)

has been cut into the side of the wall. No steps lead to the door and it appears not to be in use at the present time. Presumably when the house was divided into apartments, this door was added to accomodate the change. A bulkhead cellar entrance and a pedimented gable dormer appear on this east facade as well.

Originally a slate cobered hip roof with turned posts and a slat railing appears to have rested against the south facade. Yet to further accomodate the change from a single family dwelling to apartments, a small two story, one bay wide addition was made precluding the eastern part of the back porch. Furthermore, the section immediately to the right of the addition was also enclosed so as to leave a little less than half of the original porch. The slate roof and three of the posts remain as well as the tongue and groove ceiling.

Fenestration on the south facade consists of four 1/1 sash windows on the second floor and four on the first floor. A wood door leads through the enclosed section of the porch to one apartment and a second door on the open section of the porch leads to a second apartment. Once again a pedimented gable dormer with a 1/1 sash window appears on the attic floor.

The west facade like the north facade is three bays wide and contains a two story bay window comprised of six 1/1 sash windows. The enclosed porch extends half way around the west facade and contains ten screened panels. Two 1/1 sash windows appear on the second floor above the porch. A screened cellar window has been cut into the foundation under the bay window. The pedimented gable dormer is symmetrically placed on the hip roof.

---

Three outbuildings occupy spaces on the rear of the lot. A modern three car gable ended frame garage rests on a stone foundation in the northern most corner. In front of this garage is an earlier single car garage with pyramidal hip roof resting on a concrete slab foundation and covered with white asbestos shingles. Directly behind the house is a small frame building contemporary in style with the main house.

This square gable ended building rests above the ground on 6-10" brick pieces. It contains a door and window openings on the north and south facades as well as windows on the east and west facade. A small porch with tongue and groove floor rests against the south facade. Two plain wood posts support the porch roof and a plain balustraded railing surrounds it. Lattice work encloses the east facade of the porch.

**8 SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES post 1898 pre 1915

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

15 Linden Terrace is significant as a vernacular version of the Colonial Revival, a style that endured in the United States from c. 1870 to 1920. It displays the 1/1 sash windows, hip roof, pedimented dormers, and oversized transom and sidelights that are typical of the Colonial Revival. 15 Linden Terrace is one of only a few houses in the area that displays elements of a recognized architectural style.

Aside from its individual architectural merits, 15 Linden Terrace is significant as part of the surrounding residential neighborhood. In recent years, increased commercialization has threatened Towson's residential character. Many of the private residences which once typified Towson's built environment have been either demolished or altered in such a manner as to destroy their architectural and historic significance. The houses on Willow Avenue and Linden Terrace constitute one of the relatively unchanged residential areas left in Central Towson. 15 Linden together with the other vernacular structures on the street provide a visual representation of Towson's earlier character.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland. G.W. Bromley & Co., Philadelphia, 1898.  
Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland. G.W. Bromley & Co., Philadelphia, 1915.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

Janice E. Ruth/Historic Site Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Historic Towson Inc.,

DATE

September, 1981

STREET & NUMBER

120 Allegheny Avenue

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Towson

STATE

Maryland 21204

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
 The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
 Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
 (301) 267-1438

CHAIN OF TITLE

BA-2156

PRESENT OWNER: N. Barton Benson & Betty C. Benson  
ADDRESS: 15 Linden Terrace

<u>DATE</u>	<u>GRANTOR</u>	<u>GRANTEE</u>	<u>LIBER/FOLIO</u>
9 June 1967	Urban Title Holding Company, Inc.	N. Barton Benson & Betty C. Benson	4767/158
9 June 1967	N. Barton Benson & Betty C. Benson	Urban Title Holding Company, Inc.	4767/155
17 July 1961	Clarence E. Pusey, Jr. & Emily W. Pusey	N. Barton Benson	3867/502
23 September 1960	Mason H. Kornmann, Jr.	N. Barton Benson & Clarence E. Pusey, Jr. (joint tenants)	3757/179
23 September 1960	J. Hamilton Owens, Jr. & Helen N. Owens	Mason H. Kornmann, Jr.	3757/182
8 March 1951	J. Brooke Smith & Mary A. Smith	J. Hamilton Owens & Helen Owens	1943/85
23 May 1929	Walter L. Moran & Elizabeth S. Moran	J. Brooke Smith & Mary A. Smith	819/129
15 July 1925	J. Brooke Smith & Mary A. Smith	Walter L. Moran	619/229
14 June 1911	Robert W.J. Parlett & Mary C. Parlett	J. Brooke Smith & Mary A. Smith	380/493
10 August 1910	Henry C. Keagy & Harriet L. Keagy	Robert W.J. Parlett & Mary C. Parlett	365/63
13 October 1908	Henry L. Bowen	Robert W.J. Parlett & Henry C. Keagy	335/70
15 November 1869	[James Boyce & Elizabeth Boyce]	Henry L. Bowen	64/228

Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland.  
G.W. Bromley & Co. Philadelphia, 1915.

BA-2156

Scale: 300 ft. per inch



# TOWSON

SEE SUPPLEMENTAL SH

1967 Tax Map No. 70. Maryland Department of Assessments & Taxation, Tax Map Division. Baltimore, MD., 1967 (revised 1980).

Scale: 1" to 600' BA-2156

(inaccurate representation of easternmost section of Willow Avenue)



BA-2156



ABOVE: South-east Corner

BELOW: South (Main) Facade





ABOVE: North-east Facade

BELOW: South-west Facade

